MONTANA

1989 UPLAND GAME BIRD and FALCONRY HUNTING REGULATIONS

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, the seasons, limits and regulations listed herein shall govern the 1989 Upland Game Bird hunting seasons. The upland game bird regulations are valid March 1, 1989, through February 28, 1990. The falconry regulations are valid March 1, 1989 through March 31, 1990. These regulations were adopted by the Fish and Game Commission on June 16, 1989. Montana Fish and Game Commission: K. L. Cool, Secretary.

General Regulations

Licenses—The following licenses are available at all Fish, Wildlife and Parks offices and most license agents throughout the state.

	Res.	Nonres.
Conservation (required prerequisite*)	$2.00	$ 2.00
Upland Game Bird (required prerequisite for turkey*)	$6.00	$53.00
Fall Season Turkey	$3.00	$13.00

*The resident Sportsman's License and the nonresident Big Game Combination License and the nonresident Deer Combination License, include both a conservation and bird license.

Landowner Sponsored Deer Combination License holders may hunt upland game birds only on the landowner sponsor's property.

Montana residents 12-14 years of age, 62 and older or holders of a Disabled Resident Conservation License need only a conservation license to hunt all upland game birds, except turkey. Persons under 12 years of age may not hunt upland game birds.

All sportsmen 12-17 years of age must show proof of successfully completing a state-sponsored course in the safe handling of firearms prior to purchasing a hunting license.

All sportsmen 12-17 years of age must show proof of successfully completing a state-sponsored course in the safe handling of bow hunting tackle, in addition to the above required firearm safety, prior to purchasing a bow and arrow license.

Possession Limits—Sharptailed grouse, sage grouse, partridge, mountain grouse, and pheasant are **FOUR** times the daily bag.

Avoid Violations of the Law—It is illegal to shoot any game bird on, from, or across any public highway, or the shoulder, berm, or borrow-pit, or right-of-way of any public highway in the State of Montana and/or from an automobile or other self-propelled vehicle.

Checking Stations—All Sportsmen are required to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

Shooting Hours—Authorized shooting hours for the taking of upland game birds begin one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See official Sunrise-sunset tables in these regulations.

Wanton Waste—It is illegal to waste any part of any game animal, game bird, or game fish suitable for food. Following are game bird parts "suitable for food":

All birds that fall into the size category of the partridge or smaller, only the breasts must be retained.

All birds larger than a partridge up to the size category of, and including, pheasants and sage grouse, the breasts and the thighs must be retained.

All turkeys, the breasts, thighs and wings must be retained.

Indian Reservations—Sportsmen hunting on Indian reservations should check Indian reservation regulations because season dates and bag limits may differ from state regulations.

To minimize consumption of potential pesticide residues, the following are recommendations for preparing and cooking upland game birds except mountain grouse. 1) Trim and discard all fat and discard the skin and internal organs. 2) Fully cook skinned birds on a rack and discard drippings. 3) Do not stuff birds.

SAGE & SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

AREA 1

That part of Montana lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of the Continental Divide and the Montana-Idaho border at Lost Trail Pass (on Montana Highway 43) then north-easterly along the Continental Divide to the headwaters of Lyons Creek in T15N-R6W, then southeasterly down the north fork and main Lyons Creek and Little Prickly Pear Creek to the Missouri River, then up river to Beaver Creek, then easterly up Beaver Creek to the Meagher County line, then northerly, easterly and southerly along the Meagher County line to the Sweetgrass County line, then easterly along the north boundary to Stillwater County line, then easterly along the north boundary, and southerly and westerly along the east boundary of Stillwater County to the Park County line, then southerly along the Park County line to the Wyoming border, then westerly and northerly along the Montana-Wyoming and Montana-Idaho borders to the point of beginning.

AREA 2

That part of Montana lying east and north of the following boundary: Beginning at the Continental Divide and the U.S.-Canadian border, then south along the Divide to the headwaters of Lyons Creek in T15N-R6W, then down the north fork and main Lyons Creek and Little Prickly Pear Creek, to the Missouri River, then up river to Beaver Creek, then easterly up Beaver Creek to the Meagher County line, then northerly, easterly and southerly along the Meagher County line to the Sweetgrass County line, then easterly along the north boundary of Sweetgrass County to the Stillwater County line, then easterly along the north boundary and southerly and westerly along the east boundary of Stillwater County to the Park County line, then southerly along the east boundary of Park County to the Montana-Wyoming border, then east, north and west along the Montana-Wyoming, Montana-South Dakota, Montana-North Dakota and Montana-Canadian borders to the Continental Divide, the point of beginning.

CLOSED AREA

That part of Montana lying west of the Continental Divide.

SAGE GROUSE

AREA 1 — September 2-October 29

Bag Limits: 3 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

AREA 2 — September 2-December 17

Bag Limits: 4 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Sage grouse may be taken in Areas 1 and 2 with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

AREA 1 — September 2-October 29

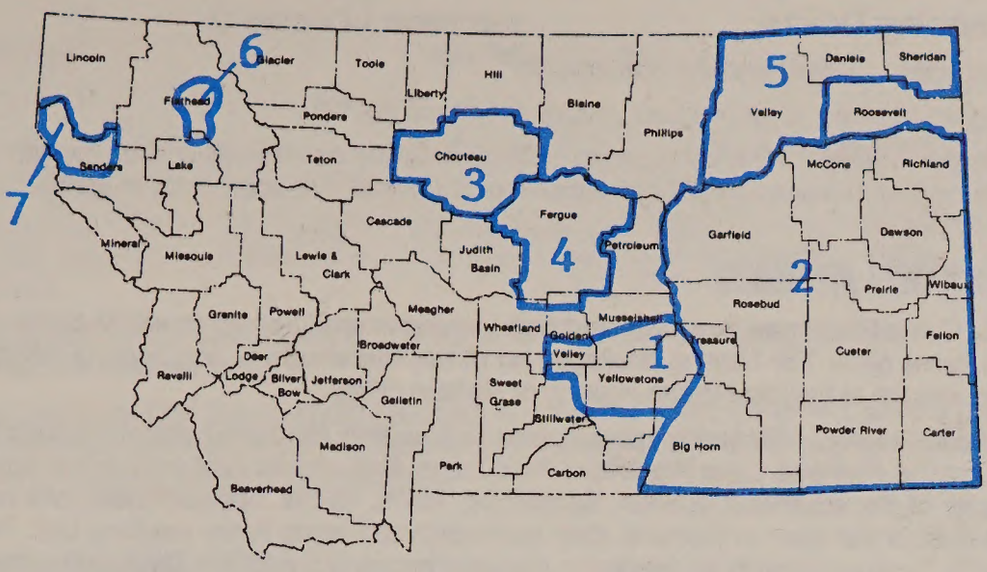
Bag Limits: 3 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

AREA 2 — September 2-December 17

Bag Limits: 4 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Sharp-tailed grouse may be taken in Areas 1 and 2 with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

MERRIAM'S WILD TURKEY — FALL SEASON



Bag Limit: One wild turkey. Sportsmen must hold a valid "FALL" season turkey license.

Tagging: Immediately after harvesting your wild turkey, cut out the proper month and day from the license (if more than one date is cut, the license is invalid) and affix to the leg of the wild turkey.

Means of Taking: Wild turkey may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge, long bow and arrow, rifle or handgun.

AREA 1

September 2-October 21 — **ARCHERY ONLY**
October 22-November 26

Portions of Big Horn, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Stillwater and Yellowstone counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Billings, then northwest on State Route 302 to Molt, then north and west on the Molt-Rapelje Road to Rapelje, then north on the Rapelje-Ryegate Road to U.S. Highway 12 at Ryegate, then easterly along said highway to Emory Road which is 1/2 mile east of the junction of Hwy. 12 and State Route 3 near Lavina, then north 9.6 miles on Emory road to Horsetheif Road, then east 1.9 miles on Horsetheif Road to Timber Buttes Road, then north 3.6 miles on Timber Buttes Road to Golf Course Road, then east 16 miles on Golf Course Road to Roundup and Hwy. 12 , then east along Hwy. 12 to Melstone, then south and southeasterly along the Melstone-Custer Road to the Yellowstone River Bridge at Custer, then easterly down the Yellowstone River to the Bighorn River, then south up the Bighorn River to the Crow Indian Reservation boundary, then westerly along said boundary to the Old Hardin Road approximately 6 miles southeast of Billings, then northeasterly along said road to Billings, the point of beginning.

AREA 2

September 2-November 26

Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Rosebud, Treasure, and Wibaux counties in their entirety **AND** those portions of Musselshell and Yellowstone counties bounded on the west by the Melstone-Custer Road between Melstone and the Yellowstone River Bridge at Custer, and bounded on the south by the Yellowstone River from the Yellowstone River Bridge at Custer down river to the Bighorn River, **AND** those portions of Bighorn County lying east of the Bighorn River. Note: On the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations, the 1989 Fall Wild Turkey Gobbler Season applies only to those lands which are owned in Fee by non-members of the Tribes.

AREA 3

October 22-November 26

Hunting by Permit Only.

Choteau County in its entirety.

A total of 20 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area.

Applicants must submit in writing their name, address, and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 4600 Giant Springs Road, Great Falls, MT 59405. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1989, to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.

SAGE & SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

AREA 1

That part of Montana lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of the Continental Divide and the Montana-Idaho border at Lost Trail Pass (on Montana Highway 43) then north-easterly along the Continental Divide to the headwaters of Lyons Creek in T15N-R6W, then southeasterly down the north fork and main Lyons Creek and Little Prickly Pear Creek to the Missouri River, then up river to Beaver Creek, then easterly up Beaver Creek to the Meagher County line, then northerly, easterly and southerly along the Meagher County line to the Sweetgrass County line, then easterly along the north boundary to Stillwater County line, then easterly along the north boundary, and southerly and westerly along the east boundary of Stillwater County to the Park County line, then southerly along the Park County line to the Wyoming border, then westerly and northerly along the Montana-Wyoming and Montana-Idaho borders to the point of beginning.

AREA 2

That part of Montana lying east and north of the following boundary: Beginning at the Continental Divide and the U.S.-Canadian border, then south along the Divide to the headwaters of Lyons Creek in T15N-R6W, then down the north fork and main Lyons Creek and Little Prickly Pear Creek, to the Missouri River, then up river to Beaver Creek, then easterly up Beaver Creek to the Meagher County line, then northerly, easterly and southerly along the Meagher County line to the Sweetgrass County line, then easterly along the north boundary of Sweetgrass County to the Stillwater County line, then easterly along the north boundary and southerly and westerly along the east boundary of Stillwater County to the Park County line, then southerly along the east boundary of Park County to the Montana-Wyoming border, then east, north and west along the Montana-Wyoming, Montana-South Dakota, Montana-North Dakota and Montana-Canadian borders to the Continental Divide, the point of beginning.

CLOSED AREA

That part of Montana lying west of the Continental Divide.

SAGE GROUSE

AREA 1 — September 2-October 29

Bag Limits: 3 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

AREA 2 — September 2-December 17

Bag Limits: 4 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Sage grouse may be taken in Areas 1 and 2 with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

AREA 1 — September 2-October 29

Bag Limits: 3 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

AREA 2 — September 2-December 17

Bag Limits: 4 daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Sharp-tailed grouse may be taken in Areas 1 and 2 with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

MOURNING DOVES— Subject to Federal approval in mid-August

STATEWIDE — September 2-October 11

Bag Limits: 15 daily and 30 in possession.

Shooting Hours: Authorized shooting hours begin one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day of the hunting season.

Means of Taking: Doves may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge capable of holding not more than three shells, or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

It is illegal to hunt by the use of baiting. It is illegal to shoot doves resting on utility lines or fixtures adjacent to those lines.

A Federal Migratory Bird Stamp is not required. A complete synopsis of regulations pertaining to migratory game birds are available from any Fish, Wildlife & Parks regional office or the Helena office (available in late August).

MOUNTAIN GROUSE

STATEWIDE — September 2-December 3

Bag Limits: 5 in aggregate daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Blue, Ruffed and Franklin's Grouse may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow, rifle or handgun. All other means of taking are prohibited.

Note: Mountain Grouse do not occur in many areas of eastern Montana.

PARTRIDGE

West of Continental Divide — September 2-December 3
East of Continental Divide — September 2-December 17
Except portion of Carbon County
(September 2-January 7, 1990).

(See closures below)

Bag Limits: 8 in aggregate daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Hungarian and Chukar Partridge may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

Chukar Closed Area—West of Continental Divide.

Portion of Carbon County: September 2-January 7, 1990

A portion of Carbon County within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of Route 72 and the Wyoming-Montana state line, then northerly along said route to Bridger, then northerly along Hwy. 310 to Edgar, then east on the Edgar-Pryor Road to the Crow Indian Reservation boundary, then southerly and easterly along said boundary to the west shore of Big Horn Lake, then southerly along said shore to the Wyoming-Montana state line, then west along the said state line to its junction with Route 72, the point of beginning.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT

West of Continental Divide — October 14-December 3
East of Continental Divide — October 14-December 17

Bag Limits: 3 cock pheasants daily. See General Regulations for possession limit.

Means of Taking: Pheasants may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge or long bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.

Transporting Pheasants: No person shall transport within the state any pheasant unless one leg remains attached to each bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal residence of the sportsman or commercial locker, ranch or permanent camp.

FALCONRY SEASON

STATEWIDE
Upland Game Birds (except turkey) — September 1-March 31, 1990

Bag Limits: 2 daily and 6 in possession.

Falconry Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

FALCONRY SEASON CONTINUED

Mourning Doves — September 1-October 11

Bag Limits: 2 daily and 6 in possession.

Falconry Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Means of Taking: All areas open to hunting of upland game birds and/or migratory game birds by firearms shall be open to either-sex hunting of that species by falconry.

CLOSED AREAS

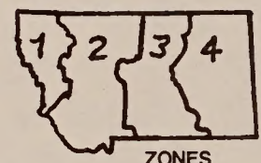
State Game Preserves, closures, and National Parks shall remain closed to hunting of upland game birds. For hunting privileges on Indian Reservations and Federal Wildlife Refuges, inquire at the local Indian Agency or Refuge office.

Flathead County: Closed to upland game bird hunting. Beginning where the west access road to the Flathead Lake Waterfowl Production Area enters said area in the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter, Section 24, T27N, R21W, approximately one-half (1/2) mile east of the town of Somers, then east-northeast along fence marking U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service property as posted to the west property line of the Dedman ownership in the west half of Section 20, T27N, R20W, then south along said line fence as posted to the north shore of Flathead Lake, then south and westerly approximately one and three-quarters (1 3/4) miles as posted to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ownership sign in the north half of Section 25, T27N, R32W, then northerly along west property line of said Waterfowl Production Area to the point of beginning.

Freezout Game Management Area (Teton County): Open to upland game bird hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting. SW1/4, Section 19, Sections 29 and 30, T22N, R3W, W1/2 Section 12, W1/2 of E1/2 Section 12, and that portion of Sections 13 and 24 within the posted boundary of the Freezout Game Management Area, T22N, R4W. The area closed will reopen for Upland Bird Hunting as indicated in the 1989 Montana Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir (Lewis and Clark County): Open to upland game bird hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting. The Bureau of Reclamation Regulating Reservoir located in Section 8, T10N, R2W in the Helena Valley, as posted.

SUNRISE-SUNSET TABLES— The following tables show actual sunrise and sunset hours including adjustments for daylight savings time.



ZONES

	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4	
September	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1- 5	6:57	8:15	6:50	8:04	6:37	7:49	6:26	7:44
6-10	7:04	8:05	6:56	7:54	6:43	7:40	6:33	7:34
11-15	7:11	7:54	7:03	7:44	6:49	7:30	6:40	7:24
16-20	7:18	7:44	7:09	7:34	6:56	7:20	6:47	7:13
21-25	7:25	7:33	7:16	7:24	7:02	7:11	6:54	7:03
26-31	7:32	7:23	7:22	7:14	7:08	7:01	7:01	6:53
October								
1- 5	7:39	7:13	7:29	7:04	7:14	6:51	7:08	6:42
6-10	7:46	7:02	7:36	6:55	7:21	6:42	7:15	6:32
11-15	7:53	6:53	7:42	6:45	7:28	6:33	7:23	6:22
16-20	8:01	6:43	7:49	6:36	7:34	6:24	7:30	6:13
21-25	8:08	6:34	7:56	6:28	7:41	6:15	7:38	6:03
26-28	8:16	6:25	8:04	6:19	7:48	6:07	7:45	5:55
29-31	7:16	5:25	7:04	5:19	6:48	5:07	6:45	4:55

	Zone 1		Zone 2		Zone 3		Zone 4	
November	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1- 5	7:25	5:15	7:12	5:10	6:57	4:58	6:54	4:45
6-10	7:33	5:08	7:20	5:03	7:04	4:52	7:02	4:38
11-15	7:41	5:01	7:27	4:57	7:11	4:46	7:10	4:43
16-20	7:49	4:55	7:34	4:52	7:18	4:40	7:18	4:25
21-25	7:56	4:51	7:41	4:47	7:24	4:36	7:25	4:20
26-30	8:03	4:47	7:48	4:44	7:31	4:33	7:32	4:17
December								
1- 5	8:09	4:44	7:54	4:42	7:37	4:31	7:38	4:14
6-10	8:15	4:43	7:59	4:41	7:42	4:30	7:44	4:13
11-15	8:20	4:43	8:04	4:41	7:47	4:30	7:49	4:12
16-20	8:24	4:44	8:08	4:42	7:50	4:31	7:53	4:13
21-25	8:26	4:46	8:10	4:44	7:53	4:33	7:55	4:16
26-31	8:28	4:50	8:12	4:47	7:55	4:37	7:57	4:19
January								
1- 5	8:28	4:55	8:12	4:53	7:56	4:42	7:57	4:25
6-10	8:27	5:01	8:11	4:58	7:55	4:47	7:56	4:31
11-15	8:25	5:07	8:09	5:05	7:53	4:53	7:54	4:37
16-20	8:21	5:14	8:06	5:11	7:50	5:00	7:50	4:44
21-25	8:17	5:22	8:02	5:18	7:46	5:07	7:46	4:51
26-31	8:11	5:30	7:57	5:26	7:41	5:14	7:40	4:59

Zone 1—Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties.

Zone 2—Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Chouteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.

Zone 3—Blaine, Bighorn, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties

Zone 4—Carter, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Treasure, Wibaux and Valley Counties.

AREA 4 October 22-November 26

Fergus County in its entirety.

The following area is an extension of the Fergus County south boundary:

Portions of Golden Valley and Wheatland counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning at Judith Gap, then easterly 12.1 miles on State Route 297, then 3.8 miles easterly on road number 191N19E, then southerly 2.6 miles on road number 191N19EN, then easterly 9 miles on road number 191N12E, (also called Judith Gap Road) to the junction of Rothlemay Road and Red Hill Road, then easterly 4 miles on the Red Hill Road, then easterly 5 miles on the Homestead Road, then easterly 4 miles on Lewis Road to the Golden Valley-Musselshell County Line, then north along said line to the Fergus-Golden Valley County Line, then west along said line to the Fergus-Wheatland County Line, then west along said line to its junction with Highway 191 north of Judith Gap, then south to Judith Gap, the point of beginning.

AREA 5 October 22-November 26

Hunting by Permit Only.

Daniels, Sheridan and Valley Counties in their entirety.

A total of 50 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area. Applicants must submit in writing their name, address and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Rural Route 1-4210, Glasgow, MT 59230. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1989 to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.

AREA 6 October 22-November 26

Hunting by Permit Only—Shotgun/Archery Only.

Flathead Valley: All of Deer/Elk Hunting District 170 and that portion of Deer/Elk Hunting District 130 as follows: Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and Montana Secondary 206 in Columbia Heights, the northeast corner of Hunting District 170, then easterly along Highway 2 to the South Fork of the Flathead River, then up the South Fork to Frank Creek, then up Frank Creek to Forest Trail 51 then up said trail to Doris Mountain on the Swan Divide, then southerly along said divide to Forest Trail 10 in Sec. 36, T26N, R18W, then southwesterly along said trail to Forest Road 9508, the Six Mile Road, then southerly on said road to State Route 83 then southerly on said route to Forest Road 10229, the Porcupine Creek Road, then westerly and southerly on said roads to south boundary of T26N, the 6th Standard Parallel North, then west along said township line to the Flathead Indian Reservation Boundary, then north and west along said boundary to the east shore of Flathead Lake, then north along said shore to the Swan River, then easterly along the south shore of said river to the State Route 35 bridge, then north across said bridge to the southeast corner of HD 170.

A total of 50 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area. Applicants must submit in writing their name, address and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, P.O. Box 67, Kalispell, MT 59901. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1989 to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.

AREA 7 October 22-November 26

Hunting by Permit Only—Shotgun/Archery Only.

West Clark Fork: That portion of Sanders County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Sanders-Mineral County line meets the Idaho border, then easterly along said county line to Greenwood Hill, then northerly along the divide to Penrose Peak, Cherry Peak and Eddy Mountain, then northwesterly down ridge to Clark Fork River and mouth of Thompson River, then northeasterly up the Thompson River to the West Fork of the Thompson River, then up the West Fork to Four Lakes Creek, then westerly up said creek to the North Fork of Four Lakes Creek, then northwesterly up the North Fork to Forest Road 7671 and Trail 437, then westerly up said trail to Trail 450, then northerly on said trail to Mt. Headley, then northerly along the divide between Graves Creek and West Fork of Fishtrap Creek to the Vermillion River Divide, then northerly along the Vermillion-Thompson River Divide to the Sanders-Lincoln County line, then westerly along said county line to the Idaho border, then south and southeasterly along said border to the Sanders-Mineral County line, the point of beginning.

A total of 50 special fall turkey either-sex permits will be issued for this area. Applicants must submit in writing their name, address and a $2 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, P.O. Box 67, Kalispell, MT 59901. Applications must be postmarked by August 31, 1989 to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall season turkey license before hunting.